



Press Release

National
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Service

In Cooperation with the Louisiana Department of AgricultureLouisiana Field Office · 5825 Florida Blvd · Baton Rouge, LA 70806 · (225) 922-1362 · www.nass.usda.gov/la

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Field Crops Not Expected To Break Records in 2011

“Louisiana’s 2011 sugarcane and hay crop yields are expected to be up slightly from 2010, while other field crop yields are expected to be lower than last year,” said Nathan Crisp, Director of the Louisiana Field Office of the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. Although dry conditions prevailed early in the growing season, rainfall has been a little more plentiful across the state recently, improving crop conditions. “Higher yields may occur where rainfall was sufficient, but overall, Louisiana probably won’t be breaking any yield records this year,” Crisp added.

The Louisiana **sugarcane** crop is estimated at 11.8 million net tons, up one percent from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 420,000 acres, unchanged from 2010. Yield is forecast at 28 net tons per acre, up .2 ton from last year. U.S. **sugarcane** production for sugar and seed in 2011 is forecast at 28.7 million net tons, up five percent from 2010.

Louisiana’s production of **all hay** is estimated at 1.2 million tons, down five percent from last year. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 400,000 acres, down 50,000 acres from 2010. Yield, at 3.0 tons per acre, is up .2 ton from last year. U.S. **all hay** production is forecast at 132 million tons, down nine percent from 2010.

Louisiana’s **corn** production is forecast at 71.5 million bushels, up two percent from a year ago. An estimated 550,000 acres will be harvested for grain, up 50,000 acres from a year ago. Yield per acre, at 130 bushels, is down 10 bushels from the previous year. U.S. **corn** production is forecast at 12.9 billion bushels, up four percent from last year. If realized, this will be the third largest production total on record.

Louisiana’s **cotton** production is expected to total 450,000 bales, up three percent from last year’s crop. An estimated 270,000 acres are expected to be harvested, up 21,000 acres from last year. At 800 pounds, the yield per acre forecast is down 42 pounds from 2010. U.S. **upland** cotton production is forecast at 15.8 million bales, ten percent below 2010.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 25.7 million cwt, down 21 percent from 2010. Rice acreage for harvest is forecast at 415,000 acres, down 120,000 acres from the 2010 crop. Yield per acre is forecast at 6,200 pounds, up 100 pounds from last year. U.S. **rice** production is forecast at 188 million cwt, down 23 percent from last year.

Sorghum production is estimated at 12.4 million bushels in the state, up 67 percent from 2010. Acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 155,000 acres, up 77,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 80 bushels per acre, down 15 bushels from last year. U.S. **sorghum** production is forecast at 241 million bushels, 30 percent below last year. If realized, this will be the smallest production on record since 1956.

Soybean production is expected to total 35.0 million bushels in Louisiana, down 16 percent from 2010. An estimated 1.0 million acres will be harvested, down 20,000 acres from 2010. Yield is forecast at 35 bushels per acre, down six bushels from last year’s yield. U.S. **soybean** production is forecast at 3.1 billion bushels, down eight percent from last year.